



Homeland  
Security

*Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655*

December 20, 2018

Sent via email to: [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Austin Evers  
American Oversight  
1030 15th Street, NW  
Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: **2017-HQFO-01286**

Dear Mr.Evers:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated August 25, 2017, and received by this office on August 28, 2017. You are seeking

1. All records reflecting talking points prepared by, in conjunction with, or in consultation with anyone from the Office of the White House for DHS to respond to media inquiries about the events in Charlottesville;
2. All emails belonging to (a) any non-career member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) in the Office of the Secretary, or career employee detailed to a position eligible to be filled by a non-career member of the SES, (b) any Schedule C employee in the Office of the Secretary, (c) any employee appointed by the President, with or without Senate confirmation (PAS and PA), or (d) any administratively appointed employee containing any of the following words or phrases: 1488, 1488ers, 4chan, AFL-CIO, Alliance for American Manufacturing, Alt-left, Alt-right, Altleft, Altright, Antifa, BLM, Breitbart, C'ville, Charlottesville, Confederacy, Confederate, Cville, Duke, Heathert, Heil, Heyer, Hitler, Intel, Jim Crow, KKK, Klan, Lee, Merck, Nazi, Neonazi, Neonazi, Pepe, Pizzagate, Pride, Rebel, Remove Kebab, Shlomo Shekelburg, Spencer, Statue, Under Armor, UVA, Virginia, Wahoowa, Walmart, White nationalist, White Supremacist;
3. All records reflecting off-the-record communications between DHS's public affairs office and any member of the media regarding the events in Charlottesville, the President's response, the administration's response, the acting secretary's response, or DHS's response;
4. All records reflecting communications between anyone in the Office of the Secretary and a non-.gov email address regarding the events in Charlottesville, the president's response, the administration's response, the acting secretary's response, or DHS's response.

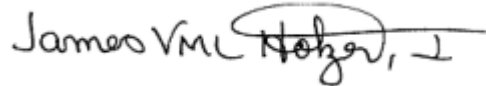
We conducted a comprehensive search of files within the Office of Chief Information Officer (CIO) for records that would be responsive to your request. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate or identify any responsive records.

While an adequate search was conducted, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist within CIO that would be responsive to your request. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 90 days of the date of this letter, to: Privacy Office, Attn: FOIA Appeals, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 245 Murray Lane, SW, Mail Stop 0655, Washington, D.C. 20528-0655, following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.8. Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS FOIA regulations are available at [www.dhs.gov/foia](http://www.dhs.gov/foia).

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact the analyst below who processed your request and refer to **2017-HQFO-01286**. You may send an e-mail to [foia@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:foia@hq.dhs.gov), call 202-343-1743 or toll free 1-866-431-0486, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison in the same manner. Additionally, you have a right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Provisions of FOIA allow DHS to charge for processing fees, up to \$25, unless you seek a waiver of fees. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James V.M.L. Holzer, J". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J" at the end.

James V.M.L. Holzer  
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer